



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 24, 2007 (Friday)

Time: 0320 Hours

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Homicide Unit

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POLICE INVESTIGATE CHILD DEATH IN OTAY MESA WEST

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of a three-year-old girl last night.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., a woman brought her daughter into the emergency room of a local hospital for treatment. While the mother filled out paperwork, hospital staff members noticed the girl was stiff and discolored. They examined the girl and confirmed she was already dead.

The preliminary investigation has revealed the girl's father came home from work at approximately 7:30 a.m. He kissed his daughter before going to bed but received no response from her. Later that morning, the girl's siblings alerted their mother that the girl's skin had become blue. The mother did not act on their concerns until approximately 3:30 p.m., when she drove the girl to her mother's house. Only after consulting with her mother did the woman drive the girl to a hospital for medical treatment.

The deceased girl had no signs of visible trauma, and the cause of her death is not known at this time. An autopsy is scheduled for later this morning.

Detectives questioned and released the girl's parents. The other children in the home were taken to Polinsky Children's Center.

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